Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 FEAE-00 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 FPC-01 H-01 INT-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 STR-04 TRSE-00 /114 W

R 291533Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0987 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS ERDA WASHDC ERDA GERMANTOWN

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USEEC,

ERDA FOR SIEVERING/MCDONOUGH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GW, PARM, BR

SUBJECT: PROBLEMS PERSIST ON LMFBR COOPERATION

REF: BONN 11304

- 1. ACCORDING TO RECENT INDICATIONS, THE DIFFERENCES (CITED REFTEL) OVER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE USFRG COOPERATION AGREEMENT IN LIQUID METAL FAST BREEDE REACTORS (LMFBR) HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED. MIDDLE LEVEL CONTACTS BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF ERDA AND THE FRG MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (BMFT) HAVE SO FAR FAILED TO WORK OUT DIFFERENCES.
- 2. TECHNICAL PROGRAM PERSONNEL IN BMFT ARE CONCERNED OVER PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUING SIGNIFICANT ASPECTS OF CONFIDENTIAL

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FAST BREEDER COOPERATION PROGRAM. THERE IS SOME FEELING THAT THE PROBLEM CAN ONLY BE SOLVED IF ADDRESSED AT POLICY LEVELS OF ERDA AND BMFT.

3. TWO GERMAN SCIENTISTS WHO APPLIED TO VISIT FACILITIES IN THE US UNDER TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT WERE TURNED DOWN RECENTLY. IT APPEARS THAT THESE AROSE

FROM ADMINISTRATIVE MISUNDERSTANDINGS WHICH HAVE SINCE BEEN RECTIFIED. HOWEVER, THE GERMANS SEEM TO FEEL THAT THESE REJECTIONS WERE AN ATTEMPT TO APPLY PRESSURE.

4. CONTINUED FAILURE TO CLARIFY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LMFBR AGREEMENT CAN ONLY EXACERBATE THE SITUATION. WE SEE HERE A NEED FOR THE US AND FRG TO ARRIVE SOON AT A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PARAMETERS OF THE LMFBR COOPERATION THEY WANT TO PURSUE. AT THE SAME TIME, O SERIOUS CURTAILMENT OF THE LMFBR AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR US-FRG SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION IN GENERAL.

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